



For informational Purposes
July 2017

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Pelican Bay State Prison Security Housing Unit Converted to General Population Housing

As a result of the settlement agreement in the *Ashker v. Brown* lawsuit related to conditions of confinement in the Security Housing Unit (SHU) at Pelican Bay State Prison, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) has implemented changes that focus on fixed segregated housing terms for behavior-based violations. These changes lessened CDCR's reliance on long-term segregated housing for managing gang-validated inmates and reduced the need for 992 SHU beds at Pelican Bay State Prison and California State Prison-Corcoran. The fiscal year 2017-2018 California State Budget includes resources to convert 480 vacant SHU cells at Pelican Bay's Facility D to house Level II general population (GP) inmates.

The converted Level II GP facility was activated July 10, 2017.

Over the past few months, Pelican Bay staff members made structural changes in Facility D to create a setting suitable for lower-custody inmates consistent with other Level II housing units throughout the state.

The unit now has tables and televisions in dayrooms. The cell doors that once restricted inmates from moving about freely are left open and inmates secure their personal property within lockers inside their cells.



Each unit within Facility D has a microwave oven, hot and cold water dispensers and telephones. Outdoor exercise yards have been constructed. Offices have been cleared out to create space for inmates to participate in rehabilitative activities, academic education, religious programs and substance use disorder programs.

Effective July 10, Facility D is now referred to as the Level II General Population unit. It will house up to 480 inmates.

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